

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 644

By Coley

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commend Helen D. Ford for her honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Helen D. Ford is one such estimable person, who has served the good people of this State with distinction and the greatest integrity; and

WHEREAS, throughout her thirty-four years of exemplary tenure with the Tennessee Board of Parole, Ms. Ford has distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, since beginning her illustrious career with the Tennessee Board of Parole as a parole officer, Helen Ford has advanced to serve in numerous leadership roles, including State Deputy Director, in which capacity she was instrumental in the hiring and management of the first group of social workers designated to support offenders' success in the Community Supervision Division; and

WHEREAS, a Parole Administrator for the Tennessee Board of Parole since 2013, Ms. Ford served as the District Director for the Memphis area from 2000-2009, ensuring compliance with policy, laws, rules, and guidelines while overseeing a staff of 160 and four office sites; and

WHEREAS, Helen Ford is a graduate of Lead Tennessee and the Tennessee Government Executive Institute; she received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Memphis in 1984 and holds a Master of Business Administration degree from Belhaven College; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ford's remarkable success as a public servant is directly attributable to her reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and her uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Helen Ford is a public servant of the highest caliber, and her retirement from State government will create a void that will not be easily filled; her considerable talents and presence will be sorely missed by not only the Parole Board but also the good people of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, throughout her exemplary tenure, Helen Ford has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the sincere respect and admiration of her colleagues and the public alike, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor Helen D. Ford for her meritorious service, commend her for her countless contributions and many good works in service to the people of this State, and extend to her our best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.